

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Alfred S. Despres III et al.
Serial No.: 09/079,502
Filing Date: 05/14/98
Title: IMPLANT WITH COMPOSITE COATING
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: S. Jackson
Attorney's Docket No.: 13928 (HAYES079502)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 6, please insert:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Application

This is a continuation of pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/079,502, ^{now PAT NO 6201,322} filed 05/14/98 by Alfred S. Despres III, Eugene J. Elwood, Robert J. Aharonov, Peter Ehlers, and Knut Andersen for IMPLANT WITH COMPOSITE COATING.